WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Functioning of Category-III equipments at airports

1 SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has reviewed the Category-III equipments installed at Delhi and other airports to cope with foggy weather this year;

(b) if so, with what results;

(c) whether it is a fact that Category-III equipments were not of much use and passengers had to face flight cancellation and hardships of cold weather; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to address the situation to avoid inconvenience to the passengers in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Instrument Landing System (ILS) facility CAT IIIA at IGI Airport, Delhi has been upgraded to CAT IIIB w.e.f. 24.12.2005.

(c) and (d) Situation has considerably improved after upgradation of ILS facility to CAT IIIB. The airlines have been directed/encouraged to undertake operations with complaint aircraft and trained pilots so as to reduce delays.

Action plan to control air accidents

2. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to work out an action plan to control air accidents;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether majority of the air accidents are due to pilot error and non-compliance with the procedures;

(d) if so, the action plan of Government to address this issue; and

(e) the action plan of Government to control accidents on the runways by fast-moving vehicular traffic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. To avoid air accidents various accident prevention programmes have been initiated by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). Safety audits, surveillance inspections etc. are carried out to find out the hazards in the operations/ engineering departments of the operator/airlines. Corrective action is taken to eliminate/ reduce the hazards. Safety management system is being introduced with all service providers/ operators.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) All accidents/incidents occurring in the India Air Space to civil aircraft are investigated under the relevant provisions of the Aircraft Rules. The investigation reports bring out the cause of the accidents and make certain recommendations. Safety Recommendations emanating from investigation of accidents/incidents are followed up by Directorate General